

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

This Amendment is in response to the Office Action dated October 8, 2004. Claims 1-36 are pending. Claims 25-36 are withdrawn. Claims 1-9, 16, and 19-22 are rejected. Claims 10, 11, 17, and 18 are objected to. Claims 23 and 24 are allowed. Claims 1, 11, 14, and 18 have been amended. Claims 10 and 17 have been canceled. Accordingly, claims 1-9, 11-16, and 18-36 remain pending in the present application.

Applicant appreciates the allowance of claims 23 and 24.

Claims 10-11 and 17-18 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but the Examiner states that they would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Accordingly, Applicant has amended claim 1 to recite the limitations of claims 1 and 10, and Applicant has amended claim 14 to recite the limitations of claims 14 and 17. Claims 11 and 18 have been amended to dependent upon the amended claims 1 and 14, respectively. Thus, Applicant submits that amended claims 1, 11, 14, and 18 are allowable.

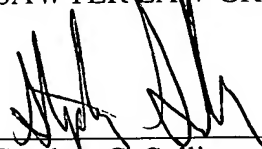
Claims 1-9, 12-16 and 19-22 are rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by 6,320,437 issued to Ma. Applicant submits that amended independent claims 1 and 14 are allowable for the reasons stated above. Applicant further submits that claims 2-9, 12-13, 15-16, and 19-22 are allowable because they depend upon these allowable base claims.

In view of the foregoing, Applicant submits that claims 1-9, 11-16, and 18-24 are patentable over the cited reference. Applicant, therefore, respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of the claims as now presented.

Applicants' attorney believes this application in condition for allowance. Should any unresolved issues remain, Examiner is invited to call Applicants' attorney at the telephone number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,

SAWYER LAW GROUP LLP

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Stephen G. Sullivan', is written over a horizontal line.

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